



Long Beach Sea Festival: Great Beach Sand Castle Contest

# Wave

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## Energy, Treatment Cost Increase Impacts Local Water & Sewer Rates

When comparing the average monthly water and sewer bill for the largest cities in California, Long Beach residents fare well. Water and sewer services provided by the Long Beach Water Department currently cost a typical household an average of \$46 per month. Over the last several years, water and sewer rates throughout the State increased, due in large measure to the rising costs of energy, treatment, construction materials and labor. Costs for these critical services are expected to continue to increase for the foreseeable future.

These factors are also the primary drivers in the rising cost of imported water from

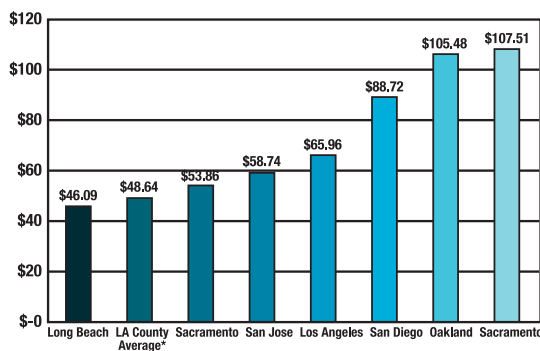
northern California and the Colorado River, which Long Beach relies upon for nearly half its supply, and increases in the annual

groundwater pumping assessment levied on the City of Long Beach by the regional groundwater management agency. These two unavoidable costs, which represent a third of the entire Water Department budget, have increased 35 percent in just two years.

The Long Beach Water Department has long dedicated itself to providing exceptional water and sewer service in an economically efficient manner, which has

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**Average Monthly Water & Sewer Rates among the largest California cities in 2005**



## A Beach Tradition Continues... Long Beach Sea Festival

Seventy-five years ago, someone came up with the idea of racing powerboats from Long Beach to Catalina Island and back. Sailboats, kayaks and even model boats were fast becoming an integral part of the Long Beach lifestyle. And, over the years, families and individuals began competing to see who could build the most elaborate sand castle along the beach in Belmont Shore.

Today, these and three dozen other family and community events have come to be known collectively as Long Beach Sea Festival, which still has plenty of wonderful events on tap, including a youth Sailboat Regatta, a Model Boat Regatta, a Tiki Festival & Polynesian Spectacular, Moonlight Movies on the Beach, and Summer Movies at the Park.

Long Beach Sea Festival has been delighting residents and visitors since June, as well as displaying the spirit of Southern California's best waterfront community. For a complete list of remaining events, locations and times, please visit [www.seafestivallongbeach.com](http://www.seafestivallongbeach.com). Most events are free. See you at the beach!

## Port of Long Beach Terminals Going Green

The Port of Long Beach has taken several historic steps this spring to reduce air emissions from Port activities. Among the measures are newly adopted landmark lease agreements that will reduce harmful air emissions by 90 percent at two of the Port's largest container terminals, and a groundbreaking test of a promising clean-air technology.

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## Low Income Gas Discount

Long Beach Gas and Oil (LBGO) is currently accepting applications to participate in the Low Income Gas Discount Program. Qualified customers receive a five percent discount on the gas portion of their City of Long Beach utility bill.

### Qualifying Incomes

To qualify for the Program, the combined maximum household income guidelines are as follows:

One to two persons in the household	\$28,600
Three persons in the household	\$33,600
Four persons in the household	\$40,500
For each additional person add	\$6,900

### Deadlines

New applicants may apply at any time. Existing customers must renew their participation by submitting the application and current proof of income no later than September 30. If required information is not received by the deadline, the current participant will have to re-qualify for the discount.

### Information

Applications for the Program are available at the City Hall lobby, 333 West Ocean Blvd.; LBGO, 2400 East Spring St.; neighborhood libraries; community centers; and online at [www.lbgo.org](http://www.lbgo.org). Individuals needing assistance, or who have questions regarding the Discount Program, can call 570.2068.

Note: LBGO will not process applications without proper documentation. Those that are enrolled in the Utility Users Tax Exemption Program (Seniors and/or Disabled receiving SSI) and had no recent changes of address need not re-apply. For more information, call 570.3533. This information is also available in Spanish at [www.lbgo.org](http://www.lbgo.org).

## Water & Sewer Rates

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helped maintain more affordable water and sewer rates for Long Beach residents for years. While the cost for local water and sewer service is expected to increase, the Department will continue to make every effort to minimize the impact on Long Beach ratepayers.

For more information on water and sewer service, visit [www.lbwater.org](http://www.lbwater.org).

## Terminals Going Green

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### Reduction of Harmful Air Emissions

The Board of Harbor Commissioners approved changes to a long-term lease agreement with Matson Navigation Co./SSA Marine. The changes will cut air pollution through the use of environmentally friendly technologies such as shore-side electricity, known as *cold-ironing*, and a new generation of cleaner cargo-handling equipment at the Pier C container terminal. Soon after it agreed to the Matson/SSA accord, the Board approved a new lease agreement with International Transportation Service, Inc. (ITS), that will bring similar *green* provisions to the ITS facility at Pier J.

"The agreements show a serious commitment on the part of the Port and our customers to work together toward clean-air solutions," said Harbor Commission President Doris Topsy-Elvord.

### Be In the Know . . .

Want to know what's happening at City Hall? Sign up for E-notify at [www.longbeach.gov](http://www.longbeach.gov).

Watch current and past City Council meetings online! Visit [www.longbeach.gov](http://www.longbeach.gov), and click on Council Meetings, Video Live and Archives under the announcements section.

## The Right Oil Change Ends With Recycling



[www.longbeach-recycles.org](http://www.longbeach-recycles.org)

**Two safe ways** to dispose of used motor oil and filters are each **one call away:**

#### 1. IF YOU RECEIVE CITY RECYCLING SERVICES, CALL FOR PICK-UP.

Used motor oil and filters are collected by request **ONLY**. Call 800.RECYCL2 before 4:00 p.m. seven days a week to request free collection containers or to schedule an oil and filter pick up on your next recycling collection day. On your scheduled pick-up day, place motor oil and filters two feet away from your recycling cart or bin (not inside them).

#### 2. DROP-OFF COLLECTION CENTERS

If you do not receive City recycling services, call 570-2876 or visit [www.longbeach-recycles.org](http://www.longbeach-recycles.org) to locate a certified used oil recycling center near you. Place used motor oil or filter into any sealed container and take it to one these conveniently located centers. You'll receive 16 cents for each gallon of motor oil you bring to the center.



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